



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE  
**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**  
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July 17, 2015

Mr. Matthew Duhon  
Administrator  
Southwest Louisiana Veterans Home  
1610 Evangeline Rd.  
Jennings, Louisiana 70546

**Re: Board Docket No. 2015-563**

Dear Mr. Duhon:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its July 17, 2015 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit your wife, Rachael Duhon, a future employee of Hearts of Hospice, from conducting business with your agency, the Southwest Louisiana Veterans Home (Home). You provided that you are the Administrator of the Home. You stated that the Hearts of Hospice has a long standing business relationship with the Home. You added that your wife will serve Hearts of Hospice as the Community Educator. As the Community Educator she will conduct in-service meetings with your staff, attend activities and promote Heart of Hospice. You stated that you and your wife do not have a separate property regime.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you that La. R.S. 42:1113 would prohibit your wife from providing services as a Community Educator for Hearts of Hospice at the Home. La. R.S. 42:1113A provides that no public servant, or a member of such a public servant's immediate family shall bid on or enter into any contract, subcontract or other transaction that is under the supervision or jurisdiction of the agency of such public servant. As Administrator of the Home all actions taken by the Heart of Hospice Community Educator would be conducted under the supervision or jurisdiction of you agency and must be approved by you.

The Board further concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that La. R.S. 42:1111C(2)(d) would prohibit your wife from accepting compensation for providing services to Hearts of Hospice while you are the Administrator of the Home. La. R.S. 42:1111C(2)(d) prohibits a public servant from receiving a thing of economic value for services rendered to any person who has or is seeking to obtain a business or financial relationship with the public servant's agency. Since the Hearts of Hospice has a long standing business relationship with the Home, your wife is prohibited from accepting compensation for services provided to Hearts of Hospice, under La. R.S. 42:1111C(2)(d), while you are the

Administrator of the Home and you and your wife have a community property regime.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or laws other than Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (225) 219-5600 or (800) 842-6630.

Sincerely,

**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Quinlan Mooney', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Suzanne Quinlan Mooney  
For the Board